

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Claims 1, 4, and 10 have been cancelled, and the rejection of these claims is now moot.

Finally, claims 17-23 have been amended to clarify their dependency.

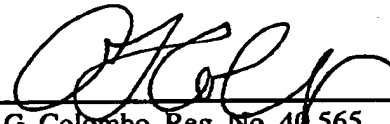
In view of the foregoing, the present application should now be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (800) 445-3460.

A two-month Petition for Extension of Time accompanies this Amendment, along with authorization to charge \$210.00 to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 19-0522 for the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17. The Commissioner is further authorized to charge \$43.00 to the undersigned's Deposit Account for the 1 (one) additional independent claim. Yet further, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

HOVEY WILLIAMS LLP

By:



Andrew G. Colombo, Reg. No. 40,565  
2405 Grand Boulevard, Suite 400  
Kansas City, Missouri 64108  
(816) 474-9050

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT

(Docket No. 31155-CNT1)